

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /073 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5833

INFO DOD WASHDC

CINCLANT NORVA

S E C R E T NASSAU 1354

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR BF US

SUBJ: FACILITIES NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 162871

1. AMBASSADOR HAS MADE APPOINTMENT FOR 10 A.M. JULY 31 TO CONVEY TO MINISTER ADDERLEY POINTS OUTLINED REFTEL. IN ORDER TO ADEQUATELY PREPARE FOR THAT PRESENTATION, EMBASSY REQUESTS ON URGENT BASIS DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE ON FOLLOWING POINTS.

2. PARA 2, REFTEL, APPEARS KEYED TO STATEMENT THAT "CERTAIN MISCONCEPTIONS HAD BEEN LAID TO REST DURING (PRE-INDEPENDENCE) NEGOTIATIONS....SPECIFICALLY WE HAD SOUGHT TO MAKE CLEAR THAT QUID PRO QUO FOR OUR FACILITIES AND OPERATING RIGHTS PACKAGE COULD NOT BE RELATED TO ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE." EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT AMBASSADOR'S PRESENTATION ON THIS POINT WOULD BE STRENGTHENED IF IN CONFIRMING PREVIOUS CLARIFICATIONS WE COULD POINT ADDERLEY TO A SPECIFIC CITATION IN THE RECORD OF PRE-INDEPENDENCE TALKS WHICH WOULD MAKE THIS POSITION CLEAR. EMBASSY RECORDS OF THOSE TALKS APPEAR INCOMPLETE ON THIS POINT. WE DO HAVE CERTAIN PORTIONS OF MAY 10-11 AGREED RECORD, TOGETHER WITH US DRAFT AIDE MEMOIRE, DATED MAY 28, 1973, WHICH LIST SUCH POSSIBLE ITEMS AS INCREASED COAST GUARD PATROLS, CUSTOMS EXEMPTIONS, EX-IM BANK PROJECTS, EXPERIMENTAL ECONOMIC PROGRAMS, TRANSSHIPMENT PORTS, INTEREST EQUALIZATION TAX,

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BORROWING RESTRICTIONS ON AUTEC PRIVATE LOANS, AND INCREASED

BILATERAL CULTURAL PROGRAMS. ADDERLEY WAS NOT PERSONALLY PRESENT DURING PRE-INDEPENDENCE TALKS AND MAY HAVE IMPRESSION FROM WRITTEN RECORD THAT THESE ARE PART OF THE ALREADY-OFFERED QUID. PRESENTATION OF PARA 2, REFTEL, WOULD BE GREATLY BOLSTERED IF, IN MAKING REAFFIRMATION OF EARLIER US POSITION, AMBASSADOR HAD IN HAND INFORMATION ON HOW MAY 28 DRAFT AIDE MEMOIRE QUID ELEMENTS WERE DESCRIBED TO BAHAMIANS WHEN FIRST PRESENTED, OR, IF THEY WERE LISTED BUT NOT PLACED IN CONTEXT OUTSIDE OF TALKS, HOW WE VIEW THEM AT PRESENT.

3. RE PARA 5, REFTEL, EMBASSY REQUESTS FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN ANTICIPATION OF ADDERLEY'S QUESTIONS ON UNACCEPTABILITY TO U.W. OF ANYTHING LESS THAN 15-YEAR VALIDITY PERIOD. (A) DOES PRESENT US POSITION ON VALIDITY PERIOD APPLY TO BOTH FACILITIES AND OPERATING RIGHTS AGREEMENT, OR ONLY TO FORMER (I.E. DOES THE US NOW ACCEPT AN OPERATING RIGHTS AGREEMENT VALID FOR 15 YEARS OR, AS EMBASSY UNDERSTOOD THE PRIOR US POSITION, ARE WE INTERESTED ONLY IN AGREEMENT THAT IS OPEN-ENDED IN TIME)? (B) TO WHAT EXTENT IS UNACCEPTABILITY OF 10 YEARS, OR ANYTHING LESS THAN 15 YEARS, CONTINGENT ON WHEN PERIOD BEGINS TO RUN (I.E. WOULD US POSITION BE DIFFERENT IF DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT BEGAN TO TOLL ON SIGNING DATE, SAY, JANUARY 1, 1975, RATHER THAN RETROACTIVE TO JULY 10, 1973)? (C) IF ANYTHING LESS THAN 15-YEAR PERIOD IS UNACCEPTABLE FOR DOD PLANNING PURPOSES, CAN WE TELL ADDERLEY THIS IS A GENERAL PLANNING REQUIREMENT OF WORLD-WIDE APPLICABILITY, OR IS THIS FIGURE BASED ON PECULIAR FACETS OF FACILITIES LOCATED IN BAHAMAS? IF LATTER, WHAT ARE THE SPECIFICS REQUIRING NO LESS THAN 15-YEAR VALIDITY HERE WHICH MIGHT HELP OBTAIN BAHAMIAN UNDERSTANDING OF THE DIFFERENCES?

4. DUE TO UNAVAILABILITY OF ADDERLEY, AND AMBASSADOR'S TRAVEL, IT APPEARS THAT MEETING CANNOT BE POSTPONED LATER THAN JULY 31. ALTHOUGH AMBASSADOR'S PRESENTATION WOULD BE AIDED BY RECEIPT OF ABOVE INFORMATION, IF SAME CANNOT BE PREPARED PRIOR TO WEDNESDAY MORNING HE WILL GO AHEAD IN ANY EVENT, TAKE ADDERLEY'S QUESTIONS AND REPORT THOSE AND THE MINISTER'S VIEWS TO THE DEPARTMENT ASAP.
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